



Office of Representative Heath Shuler

Representing North Carolina's Eleventh Congressional District

For Immediate Release

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Rep. Shuler Helps Pass Landmark Lobbying Reform ***Continues Restoring Accountability to Congress***

Washington, D.C. – Representative Heath Shuler joined with an overwhelming bipartisan majority of Congress today to pass landmark lobbying reform legislation that will change the business is done in Washington. The House of Representatives passed two bills, H.R. 2316, the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007 and H.R. 2317, the Lobbying Transparency Act of 2007.

“In recent years we saw far too often how special interest money and lobbyists have corrupted the political process. That is why from my first day in Congress I have been fighting to pass strong and thorough lobbying reform,” said Rep. Shuler. “I am pleased that members of both parties came together to pass this important legislation.”

The Honest Leadership and Open Government Act ends the infamous “K Street Project” by prohibiting Members of Congress and senior staff from influencing employment decisions or practices of private entities for partisan political gain. Those who violate this provision will be fined or imprisoned for a term of up to 15 years. The Honest Leadership and Open Government Act also requires the full disclosure of lobbying activities and stiffens penalties for violations of the Lobbying Disclosure Act.

Lobbying Transparency Act of 2007 requires a registered lobbyist who “bundles” two or more contributions totaling more than \$5,000 a quarter (\$40,000 an election cycle) to a candidate or PAC to file quarterly reports with the House and Senate Clerks.

H.R. 2316, the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007 passed the House of Representatives 396-22.

H.R. 2317, Lobbying Transparency Act of 2007 passed the House of Representatives 382-27.

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